

**Call for proposals to select Implementation Partners**

**To contribute to the implementation of the Program “Standards and Engagement for Ending Violence against Women and Domestic Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina”.**

As part of UN Women work towards ending violence against women and girls, the United Nations Agency for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women invites NGOs registered in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) to submit project proposals that aim to strengthen institutional and social response mechanisms that contribute to reducing gender-based violence

**The call is opened for the registered civil society organizations or networks from Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**Deadline for submissions: 12. June 2016**

## 1. Background

Violence against women and girls continues to be a widespread social problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), and a serious violation of fundamental human rights. This type of violence is still tolerated and considered socially acceptable behaviour, and is justified by traditional and patriarchal conceptions of the role and status of women in BiH society.

The entry into force of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) in August 2014 has marked an important milestone in the BiH efforts to curb violence against women and girls, in addition to new legislation on protection from family violence that was adopted in 2012 in both of BiH's entities. However, there is still a need to harmonize these laws at all levels and implement their necessary provisions to ensure legal protection, equal treatment and respecting the rights of women and children, who are recognized as the most frequent victims of gender-based violence.

"Standards and Engagement for Ending Violence against Women and Domestic Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina", is a three-year programme developed by the UN Women Country Office in BiH and financially supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). The programme aims to strengthen the institutional and social response mechanisms to violence against women (VAW) and domestic violence in BiH by contributing to the implementation of the Istanbul Convention. Furthermore, the proposed activities of the programme build upon the initiatives identified in the entity strategies on combating violence against women and domestic violence. The programme presents a comprehensive, transformative approach towards gender equality and women's empowerment.

The programme builds on the previous work of UN Women and other UN agencies in BiH at the policy level as well as the support provided to improve services for survivors and to prevent violence against women and girls since 2008. The programme has two main areas that are focusing on protection of survivors and prevention of violence against women and domestic violence.

Area 1. Improvement of the availability, accessibility and quality of services to survivors of violence against women and domestic violence.

Under this component, UN Women will work for:

- a) Entity institutions to have the capacity to develop and implement policies for the provision of services, based on international standards and obligations; and
- b) Communities involved in the programme to be able to provide quality, coordinated services to survivors and perpetrators in line with international standards.

The work under this component aims to enhance availability, access and quality of services utilizing a multi-sectorial approach to address violence against women and domestic violence in BiH. This will be realised by support to state based and non-governmental institutional service provision in line with the requirements of the Istanbul Convention, as well as by deploying direct support to capacity development of relevant service providers in selected communities. The work under this component will be implemented in close

collaboration with the Agency for Gender Equality in BiH project on ending violence against women funded by USAID.

Area 2. Promotion of favorable social attitudes and behaviors towards ending violence against women and domestic violence among men, women and young people.

Under this component, UN Women will work for:

- a) Engaging men, women and young people in promoting gender equality, eliminating gender stereotypes, facilitating community-based discussion, and supporting action groups to end violence against women. This will include enlisting men's active participation in preventing violence and promoting positive role models (with a special focus on high-school and university students, young fathers, and men in media, not excluding other target groups); and
- b) Engaging media, encouraging the responsible reporting of such violence and raising awareness of the criminal nature and extent of gender-based violence, including the criminality of such violence, and promoting the responsiveness and use of services.

Under this component UN Women will have a strong focus on working with men and boys to address and understand gender roles through awareness campaigning and educational activities. In addition, key media actors and outlets will be engaged in advocacy, research and capacity building towards improving gender sensitive reporting and preventing violence against women and girls.

The project was launched in April 2016 and after a few months of inception phase activities will scale up after summer 2016.

## **2. Goals and expected results**

Under this Call for Implementing Partners, interested specialized organizations are invited to apply for **one of the two** following components:

- COMPONENT: PROTECTION FROM GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
- COMPONENT: PREVENTION OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Organizations seeking to send their proposals targeting both components should send two separate project proposals, clearly outlining which component they are applying for. Applications targeting both areas will not be considered by the appraisal committee.

### **COMPONENT: PROTECTION FROM GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

UN Women Country Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina is seeking to engage implementing partners that will contribute to enhancing the access to better quality multi-sectoral services for survivors of violence against women and domestic violence.

Civil society organizations (CSOs), with expertise and proven experience in the area of protection from violence against women and domestic violence are invited to submit proposals, individually or jointly with other CSOs, to design and implement a project that will

respond to the overall goal of protection of survivors of gender-based violence. Under this component at least two different project proposals will be supported.

Implementing partners are invited to submit their proposals targeting any of the levels of government in BiH, with the main focus on cantonal/regional and local level. Interventions should primarily target but should not be limited to the following locations: Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Central Bosnia Canton and Canton 10 and in Republika Srpska: Bijeljina and East Sarajevo Region<sup>1</sup>.

Each intervention should show how it includes and is beneficial to marginalized women.

Submitted proposals **should be focus on any of the following** areas of protection and provision of services:

- Advocacy for and monitoring of the implementation of Istanbul Convention, with particular focus on cantonal/regional and local level;
- Increase in availability and quality of specialized services for domestic violence survivors and perpetrators of domestic violence with particular focus on lacking specialized services in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Development of sustainable models of financing of the specialized services for domestic violence survivors from public budgets;
- Piloting of innovative approaches of support to victims and/or perpetrators of gender based violence (for example, but not limited to safe house exit strategies, housing, new ways and/or expansion of the work with perpetrators, mobile teams, survivors or perpetrators self-help groups).

#### **COMPONENT: PREVENTION OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

UN Women Country Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina is seeking to engage implementing partners that will contribute to decrease tolerance towards violence, in their attitudes and behaviors, among men, women and youth.

Civil society organizations (CSOs), with expertise and proven experience in prevention of violence against women and domestic violence, are welcomed to submit proposals, individually or jointly with other CSOs, to design and implement a project that will respond to the overall goal of preventing gender-based violence. Under this component at least two different project proposals will be supported.

Implementing partners are invited to submit their proposals targeting any of the levels of government in BiH, with the main focus on cantonal/regional and local level. Interventions should primarily target but should not be limited to the following locations: Federation of

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<sup>1</sup> Bijeljina and East Sarajevo Region are defined as geographical locations that are under the jurisdiction of Public Security Center (centar javne bezbjednosti) Bijeljina and East Sarajevo respectfully.

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Central Bosnia Canton and Canton 10 and in Republika Srpska: Bijeljina and East Sarajevo Region<sup>2</sup>.

Each intervention should show how it includes and is beneficial to marginalized population.

Submitted proposals **should explicitly contribute to all the following** work in the area of prevention:

- Development and implementation of an advocacy strategy to include a training module on gender-based violence in the educational system in selected pilot communities.
- Peer to peer education should be strengthened and be a part of the implementing approach.
- Support should be provided to men and/or youth groups in selected communities for engaging and promoting favourable social attitudes and behaviours towards ending gender-based violence at the community level.
- Small grant support to the most innovative initiatives in promoting positive role models to challenge gender stereotypes in selected communities, specially but not only, among men and boys and youth.
- Development and implementation of media advocacy approaches with a particular focus on men and/or youth participation in addressing gender stereotypes and violence.

In addition, each project proposal needs to include a baseline and end-line study/research in order to be able to measure the changes achieved during the implementing period. A concrete methodology for data collection should be reflected in the proposal. Under this component the work in the area of promoting gender equality among men & boys is encouraged as well as the work within the formal educational system. It is crucial for the selected implementing partners to be able to demonstrate their contribution to the decreased percentage of men, women and young people who perceive domestic violence as private matter.

### **3. Guiding principles in designing the project:**

- Evidence-based programming, building on lessons learned and recommended practices, to ensure optimal results and use of resources.
- Human rights-based and gender-responsive approaches that place first priority on promoting, protecting and fulfilling the human rights of women and girls, as well as strengthening institutional capacities at local levels to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women.
- Transformation of inequitable gender norms and power disparities between women and men and empowerment of women and girls to thrive as equals.
- Holistic responses that address women's and girl's inter-related rights and needs, including safety, access to health, education and economic security.
- Focus on priority groups, including those living in poverty or otherwise especially excluded or disadvantaged, and ensuring responsiveness to diversity.

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- Coordination and multi-sectorial partnerships, including among government, nongovernmental, women's and other civil society groups.
- Commitment to sharing knowledge, by documenting, evaluating and disseminating results, and working with UN Women staff in the process.
- Priority placed on sustainability of results.

#### **4. Funding levels and duration of the project:**

##### **COMPONENT: PROTECTION FROM GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

The project implementation should last 28 months, starting from September 2016 and finishing in December 2018.

The activity implementation should be divided in three phases:

- Phase I: September 2016 - February 2017.
- Phase II: March 2017- February 2018.
- Phase III: March 2018 - December 2018.

The total value of a project under this component should not exceed 120.000 BAM.

##### **COMPONENT: PREVENTION OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

The project implementation period will last 28 months, starting from September 2016 and finishing in December 2018.

The activity implementation should be divided in three phases:

- Phase I: September 2016 - February 2017.
- Phase II: March 2017 - February 2018.
- Phase III: March 2018- December 2018.

The total value of a project under this component should not exceed 300.000 BAM.

#### **5. Application process:**

##### **Who can apply?**

The Call for Implementing Partners is opened to registered civil society organizations working in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Applications are encouraged particularly from women's, youth and human rights organizations.

##### **Priority will be given to organizations:**

- that apply in consortium (under the coordination of one organization) and
- that reach a wider geographical area.

##### **How, Where and When to apply?**

Eligible applicants are expected to submit proposals using the attached **Application form** and **Budget template**.

Submissions should be sent by e-mail with a signed cover letter and endorsements, wherever applicable. Please submit your proposal to the following e-mail address:

[unwomen.bih@unwomen.org](mailto:unwomen.bih@unwomen.org). The subject of the e-mail should be: Call for Implementing Partners- ERAW

Proposals can be submitted in English only. The deadline for submission of proposals is **12 June, 2016, 23:00 CET**. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

## **6. Appraisal and selection**

All project proposals will be appraised based on the overall quality as demonstrated by the results-oriented nature of the proposal and the alignment of the proposed intervention with the goals and expected results outlined in this call. Priority will be given to proposals that foster cooperation, including with grass-roots organizations.

The following indicative criteria may be used to assess proposals:

- a) Quality of proposal, ensuring that there is a strong link between the issues to be addressed and the planned activities and results anticipated
- b) Clear project logic aligned with the stated goals and expected results of this Call
- c) Institutional capacity to implement project
- d) Strategic partnerships necessary for project success identified
- e) Takes advantage of existing opportunities such as ongoing reforms
- f) Justifiable budget.